

REMARKS

Claims 2-11, 13-15, 17-19, 21-31, 33-35, 38-41 and 43-54 remain in this application.

Claims 20 and 42 are canceled without disclaimer or prejudice while the dependency of claim 26 is corrected to depend from claim 23 rather than claim 20. For the following reasons it is submitted that all claims presently in the application are in condition for allowance and therefore, this application should be passed to issue at the earliest possible time.

Claim 26 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 (second paragraph), as being indefinite. Claim 26 has been amended to depend from claim 23, which provides the antecedent basis for “said longitudinal direction of said slip”.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing claims 2-11, 13-15, 17-19, 27-31, 33-35, 38-41 and 43-54. Applicant also thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 21-25 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if written in independent form.

By this amendment, claims 21-23 are written in independent form. Claims 24 and 25 depend from claim 23, which is now in independent form. Therefore, claims 21-25 are now also in condition for allowance. As claim 26 has been amended to depend from allowable claim 23, claim 26 is also now in condition for allowance.

Claims 20 and 42 have been canceled. Thus, only claims that have been indicated to contain allowable subject matter remain in this application. Therefore, this application is now in condition for allowance.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, he is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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